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**EXPRESS ABANDONMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.138**Send Completed form to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 08/997,774        |
| Filing Date            | December 24, 1997 |
| First Named Inventor   | Chen, Shau-Lin F. |
| Art Unit               | 1764              |
| Examiner Name          | Tran, Hien        |
| Attorney Docket Number | 3940/3928         |

Please check only one of boxes 1 or 2 below:

(If no box is checked, this paper will be treated as a request for express abandonment as of the filing date of this

1. ☐ **Express Abandonment**  
I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper.
2. ☒ **Express Abandonment in favor of a Continuing Application**  
I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date accorded the continuing application filed previously or herewith.

**NOTE:** A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), section 711.01.

**TO AVOID PUBLICATION, PLEASE USE FORM PTO/SB/24A INSTEAD OF THIS FORM.**

- I am the: ☐ applicant.
- ☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).
- ☒ attorney or agent of record. Registration Number 28,649.
- ☐ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a) (may act under 37 CFR 1.34(a) only if box 2 above, stating that the application is expressly abandoned in favor of a continuing application, is checked.) Attorney or agent registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a).

(Attorney or agent registration number)

  
Signature

Richard A. Negin

Typed or printed name

February 20, 2004

Date

732/205-6241

Telephone Number

Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representatives(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required. See below\*.

☐ Total of \_\_\_\_\_ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.138. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Applicant: Chen, et al.  
Serial No.: 08/997,774  
Date Filed: December 24, 1997 with a first CPA filed November 21, 2000  
Title: CATALYTIC CONVERTER SYSTEM FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE POWERED VEHICLES  
Art Unit: 1764  
Examiner: Hien Tran

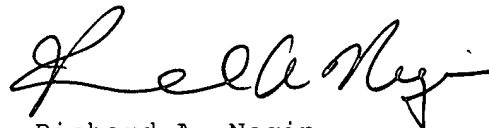
February 20, 2004

MAIL STOP BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER ACCOMPANYING EXPRESS ABANDONMENT NOTICE

Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of Express Abandonment under 37 CFR 1.138. The Application has been abandoned in favor of a Continuing Application.



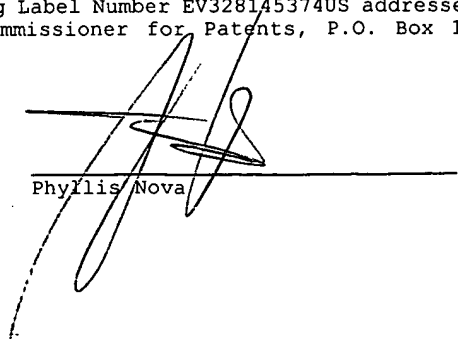
Richard A. Negin  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referenced as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number EV328145374US addressed to Mail Stop Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: February 20, 2004



Phyllis Nova